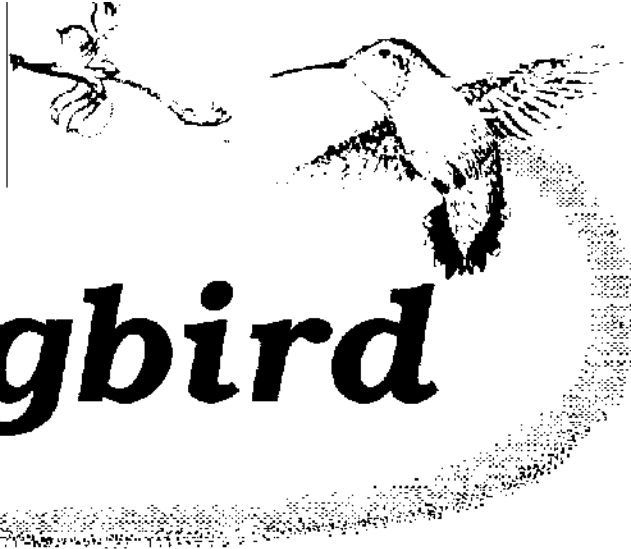


****ATTENTION****

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Hummingbird Garden

Hummingbirds, no bigger than your thumb, are living light beams. So energetic, they must consume over 1/2 their body weight each day in nectar and insects. In human terms, that means a 150 lb. person would have to eat 75 lbs. of food daily.

A 300 sq.ft. (15' x 20') hummingbird garden, with over 100 plants representing 20 species was planted at the Bellevue Lake Hills Greenbelt Park ranger station. The explosion of color attracts the tiny hummingbird to feed on nectar and insects provided by this natural food source. Because hummingbirds are particularly bold, their gardens may be placed as close to your home as you like.

This pamphlet describes how we created our hummingbird garden. It will show you how you can create one too...

Making your own ---

HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN

Finding the right place...

☐ Evaluate your yard for sun, shade, and water availability for plants.

☐ Determine where the garden and birds would be visible and enjoyable to you.

☐ Consider the birds' safety. Protect them from hitting windows by closing curtains during the time of day when windows reflect the outdoors, or hang windsocks or streamers outside in front of the glass. Protect birds from cats and weather by locating the garden by a tree where they can escape and perch. Taller flowering plants help them feed out of reach of cats.

☐ Determine the garden's shape. Asymmetrical and rounded corners are more natural and can accommodate plant shapes and needs.

Choosing the plants...

Start by becoming familiar with plants hummingbirds like. They are most attracted to red, orange, and tubular flowers. Some species of flowers do not produce much nectar and are therefore undesirable, so stick to those plants in hummingbird plant lists (see below). Plants that flower at a height of 2 feet or more are safest and most comfortable for the birds. Flowering shrubs and vines are excellent, but vines must be supported.

☐ Select hummingbird plants that include varying heights and flowering times.

Choosing plants that flower at different times gives the birds food throughout the spring, summer, and fall. It is good to have at least one red-flowering plant in bloom all the time. Obtain native plants whenever possible. They are adapted to this area and require less maintenance. It also helps maintain the character of the Pacific Northwest.

Planning the garden...

☐ Begin by drawing up what is called a "bubble diagram" (see below). Place the plants according to sun/shade requirements and height. Layer the plants to make all flowers visible and available to the hummingbirds. Put tall growing plants toward the back or around the sides, then cascade down to the shortest plants in front. Arrange each species in large clumps to make them more conspicuous to the birds; overlap is fine. Don't be afraid to be bold in size and color. Intersperse early flowering species with later flowering species throughout the garden to avoid flowerless spots.

☐ Outline the boundaries of the garden with a garden hose. You can move the hose into any shape and it will provide a sturdy barrier as you dig. Spade and till the soil adding compost or fertilizer.

☐ With diagram in hand, outline all the "bubbles" on the tilled ground with lime (purchased at any garden store) to show where the different plants will go. Before planting, place the plants in their containers (if you are not planting with seed) where they belong in the garden. Step back and see if you want to change anything.

Now you're ready to plant!

Be sure to treat with root conditioner to avoid shock to plants. Provide lots of water for your garden during the first year to get the plants established.

Give the birds time to discover your garden. It may even take a year. You may coax them in with a feeder wrapped in red, or hang brightly colored ribbons or windsocks nearby.

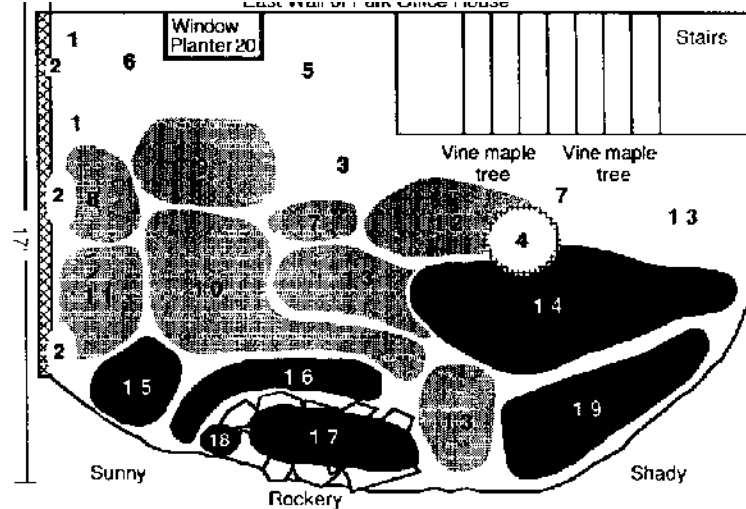
Urban Wildlife Project Hummingbird Garden

Bubble Diagram (Numbers in diagram correspond to numbers in plant list)

Plant List

	A/P	Timing	Exp.	Comments
1 Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera ciliosa</i>)	P	E, M	F	NATIVE Shrub w/ runners
2 Scarlet runner pole beans (<i>Phaseolus coccineus</i>)	A	M	F, PS	Produces edible beans for people
3 Red-flowering currant (<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>)	P	E	F, PS	NATIVE
4 Fuchsia (<i>Fuchsia hybrida</i>)	A	E, M L	PS	Hanging basket
5 Foxglove (<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>)	Bi	M	A	OK for shady areas
6 Delphinium (<i>Delphinium elatum</i>)	P	M	F, PS	
7 Phlox (<i>Phlox caniculata</i>)	P	M	F, PS	Tolerates shade
8 Lupine (<i>Lupinus sp.</i>)	P	M	A	
9 Cardinal flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>)	P	M, L	A	Red foliage, OK for shade
10 Scarlet bergamot (<i>Monarda didyma</i>)	P	M, L	A	Good for shady areas
11 False dragonhead (<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>)	P	M	F, PS	More for butter- flies than h-birds
12 Hardy fuchsia (<i>Fuchsia sp.</i>)	A	E, M, L	PS	
13 Columbine (<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>) (<i>A. canadensis</i>)	P	E	PS	<i>A. formosa</i> is a NATIVE Good for shade
14 Coral bells (<i>Heuchera sanguinea</i>)	P	E	F, PS	Good for shade
15 Balloon flower (<i>Platycodon grandiflorus</i>)	P	M, L	A	
16 Scarlet penstemon (<i>Penstemon barbatus</i>)	P	M	F	
17 Penstemon (<i>Penstemon rupicola</i>) (<i>P. fruticosus</i>) (<i>P. serrulatus</i>)	P	E, M	F	NATIVE Must have sun, good drainage.
18 "Hummingbird fuchsia" (<i>Zauschneria latifolia</i>)	P	M, L	F	Same as above. Roots travel.
19 Wild strawberry (<i>Fragaria sp.</i>)	P		F, PS	Used for ground cover
20 Sweet William (<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>)	P	M	P	

A/P A=Annual, P=Perennial, Bi=Biennial; Timing (flowering time) E=Early (late spring/early summer), M=Middle (summer), L=Late (late summer/early fall); Exp. (light exposure) F=full sun, PS=partial sun/shade, A=all conditions.



KEY TO LAYERS (PLANT HEIGHTS)

○ Upper (5 ft. +) ● Middle (2 - 4 ft.) ● Lower (6 in. - 2 ft.)

Some words of caution...

Avoid herbicides and insecticides:

Hummingbirds may be affected by poison in the nectar or eat poisoned insects. For alternatives contact: **Bio-Integral Resource Center**, P.O. Box 7414, Berkeley, CA (415) 524-5467. They have two publications: "Common Sense Pest Control Quarterly" and "Integrated Pest Management Practitioner"; or call Elisabeth C. Miller Library at the **Center for Urban Horticulture**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (206) 543-8616. Hours are M-F 9:00-5:00.

Hummingbird feeders: Do not use honey or artificial sweeteners. Be sure to boil the sugar solutions and clean feeders frequently with boiling water.

Thanks to:

University of Washington students Dottie Spaeth, Sharon Torrance, Nancy Tucker, and Dirk Wascher, and to Sally Schauman, Chair, Department of Landscape Architecture, for contributing a major portion of the garden design and for lending assistance during its installation.

The approximately 25 people who volunteered their time, tools, and expertise to create the Urban Wildlife Project Hummingbird Garden.

MsK Rare Plant Nursery, Seattle WA and West Passage Nursery, Ollala WA donated the native plants; Marenakos Rock Center, Issaquah WA contributed the rocks for the native penstemon rockery.

Special thanks to Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI), Bellevue, which adopted the Urban Wildlife Project as a community service, coordinating volunteer recruitment and training for the Hummingbird Garden workday. REI people also volunteered as workers.

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For More Information

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Urban Wildlife Project

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Mill Creek, WA 98012

or visit

Lake Hills Greenbelt Park ranger
station at:

15416 SE 16th
Bellevue, WA

(between Phantom Lake and Larson
Lake)